

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) An illumination device, in particular for use in a motor vehicle, which is formed by an array of individual optical elements that are in each case assigned at least one semiconductor light source, in particular a light emitting diode, wherein
characterized

~~in that~~ the light entry opening of the optical elements have an elongate, essentially rectangular form,

~~in that~~ the optical elements have, perpendicular to the light entry area, a central region whose projection into a two-dimensional plane corresponds to a cylindrical two-dimensional Cartesian oval,

and ~~in that~~ said central region is combined with a parabolic reflector.

2. (currently amended) The illumination device as claimed in claim 1, wherein
characterized

~~in that~~ the outer areas A and B of the reflector are rotated in the direction of the central region of the optical element such that all beams emerging from the optical element are substantially parallel.

3. (currently amended) The illumination device as claimed in
claim 1 either of claims 1 and 2, wherein
characterized

~~in that~~ the outer areas A and B of the reflector are embodied such that they are mirror-coated or totally reflective.

4. (currently amended) The illumination device as claimed in
claim 1 one of the preceding claims, wherein
characterized

~~in that~~ the side areas E of the optical element are inclined in such a way that the optical element tapers from the light exit area G toward the light entry area F.

5. (currently amended) The illumination device as claimed in
claim 4, wherein
characterized

~~in that~~ the side areas are formed, in particular by means of mirror-coating or curvature, such that a large acceptance angle is produced in the beam direction.

6. (currently amended) The illumination device as claimed in
claim 1 one of the preceding claims, wherein
characterized

~~in that~~ the cross section of the light entry area of the individual optical elements have, in a departure from the rectangular form, a trapezoidal form whose side areas

are inclined by the angles α and β with respect to the normal to the base area.

7. (currently amended) The illumination device as claimed in claim 1 one of the preceding claims, wherein characterized

~~in that~~ at least one of the individual optical elements is assigned a plurality of semiconductor light sources.

8. (currently amended) The illumination device as claimed in claim 1 one of the preceding claims, wherein characterized

~~in that~~ the individual semiconductor light sources can be switched individually.

9. (currently amended) The illumination device as claimed in claim 1 one of the preceding claims, wherein characterized

~~in that~~ the optical elements and the semiconductor light sources are arranged such that they are displaceable with respect to one another.

10. (currently amended) A method for driving an illumination device as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein characterized

~~in that~~ the semiconductor light sources can be driven

individually in a manner dependent on the desired radiation characteristic,

it being possible in this case for the semiconductor sources to be entirely or partly activated.

11. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 10,
wherein

characterized

~~in that~~, for the case where a plurality of semiconductor light sources are assigned to an individual optical element, these are driven in a manner dependent on the desired radiation characteristic.

12. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 10

~~either of claims 10 and 11, wherein~~

characterized

~~in that~~ the lenses and the semiconductor light sources are displaced relative to one another for the purpose of changing the emission characteristic of the illumination device.

13. (currently amended) The use of the illumination device as claimed in claim 10 ~~one of the preceding claims~~ as a motor vehicle headlight for asymmetrical illumination of the surroundings in front of a motor vehicle.